



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY

Continuous Systemic Improvement (CSI) Advisory Committee
September 21, 2015
6:00 p.m. – The “Swamp” Conference Room
Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present: Tony Beougher, Larry Byrnes, Adam Hall, Michele Hampton, Monica Morfis, Chris Quackenbush, Brian Rist, Susan Shin-Harris, Kally Shiner-Nunes, Tammy Traiger, Gery Treichler

Committee Members Absent: Cheryl Ammon-Kunkle (excused), Victor Castro, Samantha Leroy, Christopher Lightfoot (excused)

School Board Liaison: Ms. Mary Fischer

Staff Members Present: Dr. Richard J. Itzen, Director Research and Assessment, Mrs. Patti Elkin, Director Accountability

Recording Secretary: Terri Saarinen

Guests: None

Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Board Liaison Ms. Mary Fischer at 6:02 P.M. Dr. Itzen also welcomed the group and noted meeting would be recorded. Round robin introductions and interests in serving on the CSI advisory committee ensued.

Review /Approval of Minutes and Meeting Agenda

Ms. Fischer asked for a motion to approve the February 23rd meeting minutes. Motion to approve by Dr. Byrnes, seconded by Mr. Treichler. Mr. Treichler noted his extensive comments regarding inclusion/mainstreaming and its negative impact. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion to approve meeting minutes from the March 9th CSI meeting was made by Mr. Rist, seconded by Mr. Hall. All ayes, no opposition, motion carried.

With the correction that Ms. Fischer was present and not absent as draft minutes reflect, motion to approve the April 13th meeting minutes was made by Mr. Rist, seconded by Ms. Quackenbush. All ayes, motion carried.

Ms. Fischer asked for a motion to approve tonight’s meeting agenda. Motion to approve made by Dr. Byrnes, seconded by Mr. Beougher. Discussion. Mr. Rist suggested moving election of chair and vice chair to later in the agenda. Additional discussion ensued. With a show of hands, election of CSI chair and vice chair moved to before Good of the Order and agenda for September 21st was approved.

Board Member Report

In providing her Board Member report, Ms. Fischer said the Board is very interested in seeing the workings of this committee and is awaiting briefing on updates to the District Strategic Plan. She added that the strategic plan is a work in progress, mentioned the importance of district goals and commented the Board will use these goals as search begins for a new Superintendent. The Board has a workshop scheduled October 16 – 17, and input from advisory committees and community members is welcomed.

Ms. Fischer spoke of a recent meeting with legislative delegation and county commissioner. A sales tax increase was discouraged by this group. The challenges and opportunities of this very large and diverse school district were discussed.

There is little that can be done by way of funding or changing assessment rules. Discussion about half cent sales tax ensued.

Suggested Topics for Future CSI Meetings

Following a collaborative discussion regarding topics and areas of interest for future CSI meetings, the following items will be placed with the appropriate one of seven Strategic Plan focus area.

- Strategic Plan overview (brief)
- Recommendations regarding the Strategic Plan implementation
- Special needs and Gifted students programs
- Transportation costs
- Special Programs as related to School Choice
- Business Partnerships potential (e.g. Dunbar HS/Microsoft)
- Gallup engagement surveys
- Assessment and Testing
- Safety and Health (SRO's, LCSO or Municipal PD's?)
- Leadership Qualities for Superintendent

In addition, the committee asked for the following:

* Committee requests current report from each of the seven focus area committees - When did they meet? What was the outcome? What is the plan moving forward?

* Committee requested opportunity to meet with representative from each of the focus area committees when that area is scheduled for CSI agenda.

* Committee requests School Board schedule for review of Advisory Committee recommendations.

* Committee requests feedback following quarterly reports and recommendations to the Board.

Additional topics, subtopics or documents to share with the CSI advisory committee can be sent to recording secretary (TerriLS@Leeschools.net) for compilation and distribution.

Review of Sunshine Law, CSI Mission Statement, purpose of CSI Advisory Committee, Meeting Dates, and Norms

Ms. Fischer read the mission of this advisory committee. She initiated the discussion regarding public comment and said as a group, the CSI advisory committee can decide time allowed per speaker, topic (open or only items on agenda), and when scheduled in the agenda. Discussion ensued. Motion to limit public comment to items on agenda made by Mr. Rist, seconded by Ms. Quackenbush. All ayes. Motion carried.

There was additional discussion regarding time limits per speaker. Motion made by Mr. Beougher to allow 3 min per speaker with up to 30 minutes allowed for Public Comment, essentially adopting what is used for School Board meeting. Seconded by Mr. Rist. All ayes.

Dr. Itzen added that decision regarding placement of Public Comment on the agenda is also needed. Ms. Fischer talked about public meetings and Sunshine laws and CSI committee members in attendance received handout from Board Advisory Committee training. Motion by Ms. Quackenbush to have Public Comment immediately following Board Member Report. Seconded by Mr. Beougher. All ayes. Motion carried.

Dr. Itzen provided historical detail regarding CSI meeting schedule and said group has typically met on the second Monday from 6:00 – 7:30 PM of months indicated in Board Policy 1.20 (September, October, November, January, February, March, and April.) The committee agreed to second Monday of each month from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM. Discussion ensued regarding scheduling additional CSI meetings in May and summer months. Dr. Itzen reminded the committee that advisory

appointments occur in September. Motion to add CSI meeting in May made by Ms. Shiner-Nunes, seconded by Mr. Rist. Discussion ensued. All ayes, no opposition. Motion to add May 9th to CSI meeting schedule carried.

Additional discussion ensued regarding meeting agendas, recommendations to and feedback received from the board, status of action plans for the strategic plans, requests for updates and not lengthy PowerPoint presentations. Dr. Itzen suggested that as outcome of each meeting, this group write and vote on one recommendation. Several members expressed concern that the committee had submitted recommendations in the past but no feedback was ever received, evidence of action taken. Dr. Byrnes commented that the Board does not have to accept or act on the recommendations received. Additional discussion ensued and as outcome, Ms. Fischer said she would bring CSI comments and concerns to her Board colleagues Tuesday.

Dr. Itzen added that while the committee can recommend topics, future agendas are determined by the CSI Chair and Board liaison.

CSI Chair and Vice Chair Elections

Ms. Fischer opened nominations for CSI chair. Mr. Rist was nominated and accepted nomination. Ms. Morfis was nominated and declined. Dr. Byrnes was nominated and declined. Discussion ensued. Vote taken, all ayes. Mr. Rist was elected CSI advisory committee chair for 2015-16.

Ms. Fischer opened nominations for CSI vice chair. Mr. Treichler (vice chair last year) was nominated and accepted nomination. Mr. Hall was nominated, accepted nomination, and later rescinded acceptance. Mr. Beougher was nominated and accepted nomination. Discussion ensued with additional comments from the nominees. With a vote of 6 to 5 by show of hands, Mr. Treichler was elected CSI vice chair for the 2015-16 school year.

Good of the Order

In closing, Ms. Fischer thanked attendees and said she is excited with what she heard and with the membership of this group.

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 7:57 PM.

The next meeting of the CSI Advisory Committee is **Monday, October 12 at 6:00 PM in Training Room D**. CSI meetings are held at the Lee County Public Education Center, 2855 Colonial Blvd. Fort Myers, Florida